IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Julen Burgoa ARTECHE et al.

Based on

PCT/DE 2004/001574

Title

FUEL FILTER

Docket No.

R.306459

Customer No.

02119

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)</u>, AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file and be considered by the examiner.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(b), since it is being filed within three months of the filing date and before the mailing of a first Office action.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is as follows:

JP 9-206518

This invention relates to a filter suitable for automobile oil filter includes a housing with a pair of casings connected together with open ends facing each other and having respective communicating ports, a partition wall interposed between the open ends of the casings and having a peripheral edge held between the peripheral edges of the casings and first and second through holes, and a filter medium unit including a first filter medium having a first communicating hole corresponding to the first through hole of the partition wall and a second filter medium having a second communicating hole corresponding to the second through hole of the partition wall. The first filter medium is held between the peripheral edges of the casings together with the peripheral edge of the partition wall at one of two sides of the partition wall so that the first through hole and the first communicating hole are laid each one upon the other and so that a peripheral edge of the first filter medium adheres closely to the side of the partition wall. The second filter medium is held between the peripheral edges of the casings together with the peripheral edge of the partition wall at the other side of the partition wall so that the second through hole and the second communicating hole are laid each one upon the other and so that a peripheral edge of the second filter medium adheres closely to the side of the partition wall.

JP 3-114504

This invention reduces the costs of a filter by a method wherein an exchange filter element is composed substantially of only a sheet of filter medium. To exchange a filter element, thumbscrews are unfastened to remove a lid and the existing filter element, together with a back plate, is pulled out from the securing groove of a supporting block remaining on a container body. Only the filter element is then replaced with the new one, it is placed on the back plate, their side edges are both fitted into the securing groove of the supporting block, the lid is placed on the container, while the securing groove of a supporting block on the lid is being fitted with a great care over the upper edges of the newly-installed filter element and the back plate arranged in coincidence and it is refastened thereto with the thumbscrews. In this way the filter element, together with the back plate, is fitted all around the continuously peripheral groove of the supporting block and secured in such an arrangement that its face traverses a liquid flow passage.

WO 01/30479 A1

This invention relates to a device for filtering a fluid comprising a casing with an inlet for the fluid to be filtered and an outlet for the filtered fluid, filtering means, a filtering flow being produced when suctioning is applied in the outlet and a cleaning flow being produced when a purge fluid is propelled from the outlet to the inlet. The filtering means consist of a filtering plate extending axially in the casing and dividing the inner space into a first and a second chamber. The outlet is arranged in such a way that the first flow of fluid entering through the inlet passes through said plate before coming out of the casing.

US 2,306,984

This invention relates to internal combustion engines, particularly to such engines of the Diesel type, and to filter devices used for filtering fuel oil therefor. The object of the invention is to provide an improved filter device for Diesel engines, which enables removing from fuel oil solids considered not susceptible of separation by filtration, such for instance as paraffin in colloidal form, which may be present in oils used in the Diesel engines, particularly in the oil of lower grades.

Examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald E. Greige Registration No. 21,517 Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Telephone: 703-838-5500 Facsimile: 703-838-5554

Date

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Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031
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	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Cite Initials* No.		Document Number 2 Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear					
		US- 2,306,984	12-29-1942	John A. Tolman						
		US-								
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Office	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind ⁵ (ii known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Т6	
		JP	9-206518			08-12-1997	Masamoto Chiba		
		JP	3-114504			05-15-1991	Toshiyuki Asao et al.	,	
		wo	01/30479	A	1	05-03-2001	AlbertoVazquez-Figueroa Rial		
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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SUBMISSION OF PRIOR ART

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a be printed on the bibliographic page of any patent issuing from this application.

The prior art listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is prior art which was cited in a Search Report for the International Application which ultimately translated under 35 U.S.C. 371 into this U.S. application.

In the event that the Patent and Trademark Office has not already obtained copies from WIPO, copies of this prior art are enclosed for the examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Royald E. Greige Registration No.

Attorney For Applicant(s)

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Date: 1 23 06

REG/qmh

Customer No. 02119

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					Art Unit		
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			U.S. PAT	ENT DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number 2 Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5,451,273 A	09-19-1995	Kathy D. Howard et al.	
		US- 2002/0017485 A1	02-14-2002	Kouichi Ito et al.	
		US-			
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Examiner Initials*	iner Cite		Foreign Patent Document fice ³ Number ⁴ Kind ⁵ (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶		
		DE	100 39 425	A1	02-21-2002	Martin Werner et al				
		EP	1 174 170	A2	01-23-2002	Ito Kouichi et al.		✓		
		EP	0 943 796	A2	09-22-1999	Ivan Garcia Blazquez et al.				
		wo	96/19658	A1	06-27-1996	Kathy Howard et al.		✓		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.